



United States
Department
of Agriculture

LDP-M-126

Dec. 28, 2004



Electronic Outlook Report from the Economic Research Service

www.ers.usda.gov

Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook

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2004 Dairy Records All Around

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The next release is
January 21, 2005

Approved by the
World Agricultural
Outlook Board.

NOTE: Due to uncertainties as to the length of bans regarding the imports of ruminant products due to the discovery of a BSE-infected cow in December 2003, forecasts for 2004 and 2005 assume a continuation of policies currently in place. Subsequent forecasts will reflect any announced changes.

The year 2004 has been incredible for the U.S. dairy industry. Milk production is forecast to be a record or near-record, commercial use also hit new highs, and prices were extremely volatile throughout the year. By the time this year is over, farm milk prices will have jumped more than a fourth from 2003's average to a record \$16 per hundredweight (cwt).

Expanded milk production in 2005 is projected to lend more stability to the industry and to lower prices. However, growth in milk production is not expected to be rapid, dairy product demand is expected to be pretty good, and commercial exports are projected to continue to absorb most of the domestic surplus of skim solids. Milk prices are projected to lose only about half of their 2004 increase.

Fourth-quarter beef production is going to be about unchanged from the very low levels of last year. Poor feedlot conditions in many areas in late November raises concerns for maintaining production in the first half of 2005. Muddy feedlots and reduced gains have added another factor to already tight fed beef supplies. Retail beef prices are expected to remain strong in 2005, with fed cattle supplies remaining very tight. Heifers retained for breeding in 2005 will tighten supplies even more in late 2005 and 2006, resulting in another run toward record prices.

Prices of 51-52 percent lean hogs (live equivalent) in the fourth quarter of 2004 remain at startling levels despite seasonally high slaughter and pork production. Hog prices are expected to range between \$55 and \$56 per cwt, 50 percent higher than in the fourth-quarter of 2003. Pork production for 2004 is expected to be almost 3 percent higher than

last year, at 20.5 billion pounds. Excellent pork demand in both domestic and export markets are the primary factors supporting hog prices right now.

Through October, U.S. companies exported 1.8 billion pounds of pork products, more than 25 percent above the same period last year. Japan, Mexico, and Canada continue to account for about 80 percent of U.S. exports. Taiwan's imports of U.S. pork products are currently 63 percent larger than last year, largely due to the effects of Porcine Circovirus in the Taiwanese swine herd.

USDA will release the *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs* report on December 28, 2004.

The increase in broiler production in 2005 is expected to slow to about 3 percent, down from the 4 percent increase expected this year. Broiler exports have benefited over the last several months from the decline in U.S. prices of most broiler parts. The recent reopening of the Chinese market to U.S. poultry products is expected to strengthen exports of U.S. broiler parts. Broiler prices are expected to gradually strengthen from their current lows over the next several months as slower production increases and stronger exports draws down relatively high stocks.

Watch for changes in early 2005 in the formatting of the Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry newsletter that we hope will make our information more useful and timely. We plan to use the charts (previously included with our tables in the back of the newsletter) to illustrate specific points in our analysis. Since we know that most of our users use our data in spreadsheet format, the tables that we publish in what is now known as the "full report" will be available as Excel spreadsheets only. Subscribers to our newsletter will receive notices when the newsletter and the spreadsheets are posted to the web. These changes will help us streamline our operations, and provide you with updated analysis and data in formats that you can easily use in your own reviews of the markets.

2004 Dairy Records All Around

The year of 2004 has been incredible for the U.S. dairy industry. Milk production is a record or near-record, commercial use has hit new highs, and prices have been extremely volatile throughout the year. Farm milk prices have jumped more than a fourth from 2003's average to a record \$16 per cwt.

Expanded milk production in 2005 is projected to lend more stability to the industry and to lower prices. However, growth in milk production is not expected to be rapid, dairy product demand is expected to be pretty good, and commercial exports are projected to continue to absorb most of the domestic surplus of skim solids. Milk prices are projected to lose only about half of their 2004 increase.

Slow Milk Production Growth To Continue

Milk production continues its cautious expansion, running about 1 percent above a year earlier since it moved positive in early summer. Strength in milk prices has proven more persistent than earlier thought, probably bringing milk cow numbers near a year earlier for the first time since early 2003. However, growth in milk per cow remains rather anemic, as forage problems continue, improved price ratios between milk and concentrate feeds have yet to make a splash, and bovine somatotropin (BST) remains limited.

Record farm milk prices in 2004 have bolstered milk cow numbers. Although concentrate feed prices were high for part of the year, returns over concentrate costs have averaged about the highest ever. These returns apparently slowed the exit of farms from dairying, having improved the ability of even the weaker operations to hold on. Some effects may last into 2005 as these farms probably have used some of this year's windfall to get ahead on critical expenses.

The strong returns probably did not have as much impact on expansion by robust farms. Considerable incentive existed to keep facilities as full as possible, but many of the key factors in this year's prices likely were perceived to be too temporary to alter long-term growth plans. Even so, the infusion of cash probably will allow farms to expand somewhat sooner than otherwise.

Replacement heifer prices eased a little this autumn, but supplies probably have stayed tight. In 2004, replacement prices are expected to average over \$1,600 per head, exceeding even the record of 2002. The United States remains closed to imports of breeding stock from Canada. The January inventory report might show a few more homegrown replacement heifers than at the start of 2004. However, any increase is likely to be modest because the greatest economic influence on this inventory would have been the relatively low replacement prices of 2003.

The upward drift in milk cow numbers that began early last winter appears to have peaked in early autumn. Cow numbers are projected to slowly decline in coming months as farm exits gradually resume, expansions stay moderate, and heifer supplies remain tight. Decreases may accelerate as 2005 progresses, but returns are expected to remain favorable enough to limit declines in cows. Cow numbers are expected to decline less than 1 percent in 2005, very similar to this year's slippage.

Milk per Cow Struggling

After a modest spur from favorable summer weather, milk per cow settled back into very weak growth. Restricted supplies of BST were a key factor but forage quality also played a role. A significant share of the hay produced in most major dairy areas this year was mediocre. Unusual culling due to the heifer shortage may also have been significant.

The price of milk relative to concentrate feed prices has been at levels associated with above-average growth in milk per cow since late 2003. However, the lack of apparent response may reflect mostly changes in feeding practices. The complexity of modern feeding has slowed responses to changes in economic incentives, and might even have diminished the role of prices in determining growth in milk per cow. Even so, ratios in 2005 are projected to favor, for the second straight year, increased feeding and recovery in milk per cow.

Monsanto has said that allocations will continue “well into 2005,” but farmers using BST were able to start receiving 70 percent of normal use as of December 1, will get 85 percent as of January 1, and further boosts may occur. Expanded BST use could significantly enhance recovery in milk per cow growth, particularly since returns to the hormone are projected to be relatively favorable.

Milk per cow in 2004 is projected to total only about 1 percent more than in 2003, following a similar weak showing in 2003. Milk per cow in 2005 is expected to rise almost 3 percent, a seemingly impressive rise. However, this increase would represent a rather modest recovery towards the long-run trend.

Milk production is projected to end 2004 stronger than earlier in the year. Even so, the annual total is expected to be almost unchanged from a year earlier. Output in 2005 is projected to expand about 2 percent, the first sizable rise since 2002.

Commercial Stocks Cut

Butter and cheese stocks continued to be trimmed at a brisk seasonal pace in October. November 1 butter holdings were down sharply from the two preceding years, and weekly indicators showed further strong decreases during November. Commercial cheese stocks remained slightly larger than 1 or 2 years earlier. Summertime backups into warehouse stocks had largely dissipated by the start of November. The key factor in recent stock trimming probably was strong product movement for the autumn holidays. Sales reportedly were fairly good in late October and remained strong through Thanksgiving.

Manufacturers’ nonfat dry milk stocks were significantly above a year earlier on November 1. However, the modest size of price support purchases during October and November indicated that traders were not uncomfortable with these holdings. Strong powder sales generally and the prominence of the export market probably have boosted the need for stocks this year.

The combination of a considerably smaller surplus and aggressive donation use for drought relief and food aid pulled government stocks of nonfat dry milk on November 1 below 500 million pounds, the smallest since late 2000 and half the

level of a year earlier. Most of the remaining powder is expected to be used in coming months, although new purchases are projected to replenish stocks somewhat.

Net removals of nonfat dry milk have been fairly moderate in recent months. There have been no Dairy Export Incentive Program (DEIP) shipments, and the continued exchange of nonfat dry milk for pudding apparently has displaced relatively little domestic use. The key to this rather abrupt change in the surplus of skim solids has been the competitiveness of U.S. skim solids in the international market. However, recovery in domestic ingredient use may also have made a significant contribution.

During the marketing year ended September 30, 2004, net removals of nonfat dry milk were only 167 million pounds, less than one-fourth those of either of the two preceding years. Even though substantial quantities were sold for unrestricted use (including that swapped for pudding or processed cheese), purchases stayed rather moderate. Net removals of butter were slightly negative because of small amounts sold back to the industry, while small DEIP exports of cheese were made.

Removals are expected to stay moderate during the current marketing year, even if they pick up from the rather minimal start. International markets are expected to absorb most of the domestic surplus of skim solids, and milkfat markets are projected to remain tight. The strength of export demand is critical, but removals are not expected to return to the levels of a few years ago even if commercial exports falter.

Although allocations for the current July-June commitment year were announced, no invitations for bids, necessary to implement DEIP, were issued. Domestic butter and cheese markets have stayed tight, and U.S. skim milk powder is fully competitive internationally without subsidies. Invitations may be issued after the start of the year if market conditions change enough.

Commercial Use Mixed

Movement of many dairy products has remained erratic, confounding easy interpretation of current dairy demand. Sales of butter and cheese were somewhat lackluster in September-October, following strong oscillations during spring and most of summer. Some of the sluggishness during September-October may still have been carryover from the spring price peaks and subsequent adjustments. However, delayed holiday buying probably was a larger factor. Prices generally weakened during September and much of October. Buyers likely minimized purchases for the autumn holidays in hopes of further price decreases, setting the stage for the reported November scramble for supplies.

Commercial disappearance of nonfat dry milk continues to increase, up modestly in October after an astounding summer quarter. Through October, movement was 45 percent above a year earlier—seemingly sure to break the 1965 record this year. It is unclear where this powder went. Commercial exports undoubtedly have been large this year, but the reported exports minus DEIP and food aid exports only explain a relatively modest share of the increase in disappearance. Although domestic powder use may well have grown, and user inventories might have

swollen, it seems likely that commercial exports have been larger than what has been reported thus far.

Sales of other products have been mixed but generally weak. Declines in beverage milk sales persist, down about 1.5 percent for the first 9 months of 2004. Likewise, sales of cottage cheese and frozen products (other than lowfat ice cream) decreased significantly in recent months. Sour cream and yogurt use did manage to be exceptions to the general pattern.

The economy and personal incomes continue to grow. However, economic performance has been uneven, with some sectors lagging considerably. In addition, higher food and energy prices have absorbed a significant share of the income growth. But, the consumption expenditures seem to imply an underlying shift to housing and housing-related expenditures and away from the “treats” for immediate consumption that had been so favored before mid-2001. These trends imply that demand for dairy products will be good--but not exceptional--in 2005.

Tight International Markets and a Weak Dollar Equal High Prices

International dairy markets remain tight, and the weak U.S. dollar is translating this tightness into relatively high prices. Prices of nonfat dry milk ran about \$2,400 per metric ton in late November, up about \$600 from a year earlier and \$200 since late summer. Meanwhile, butter was selling for about \$2,100 per ton, up about \$500 from a year earlier and slightly from summer levels. Prices for cheese and dry whole milk reportedly have been even stronger than for butter and nonfat dry milk.

Demand has been generally strong. Milk powder demand from eastern Asia has been brisk, reflecting the region’s generally good economic performance. Latin American imports have stayed fairly large in spite of the high prices. Higher oil prices have boosted demand in the Middle East, North Africa, and other oil producers, as has rebuilding efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Higher oil prices have also had an important impact on butter demand in the Middle East. Russian butter demand reportedly has been fairly robust but not extraordinary.

Export supplies have been limited. European Union (EU) milk production has been down slightly, and domestic use has been strong. Intervention stocks are quite moderate. As a result, the EU has been relatively slow to compensate for the strength of the euro by raising export restitutions. Australia’s recovery in milk production has been modest thus far in their season. Meanwhile, cool, wet conditions foiled pre-season predictions of another sizable increase in New Zealand output. Season totals continued to lag year-earlier levels through the seasonal peak. An annual increase is certainly still possible since recent weather has been excellent. However, considerable doubt remains, particularly since last season had a fairly strong close. The United States still has considerable quantities of skim solids that could be exported at current prices, but the U.S. domestic market has tightened greatly.

The increase in nonfat dry milk prices since the middle of 2003 differs in several important ways from earlier surges in international prices. First, the very high dollar prices resulted from a combination of a tight market balance and a weak dollar. Some importers are being affected by the high prices much less than others,

and most exporters are being hurt by their currencies' strength. Oil producers, normally affected substantially by weakness in the dollar, have not been because of higher oil prices.

Market dynamics also have been considerably different during this price rise. Typically, major price increases have set off a round of panic buying by importers that pushes prices to an extreme peak. Prices soon collapse once the panic starts to subside. In the recent case, buyers knew there was no reason for concern. The continuing surplus and heavy stocks in the United States meant that ample amounts would be available near recent prices.

International prices for nonfat dry milk are expected to remain high through at least most of 2005 as the dollar is expected to stay weak. Export supplies are unlikely to expand substantially until at least the second half. Some seasonal price weakening may occur during the Northern Hemisphere winter, but demand is projected to stay firm. The same general picture is projected for butter prices, but butter prices may not be quite as strong because of less certain demand strength.

2005 Exports To Be Strong While Imports Slip

Commercial exports of nonfat dry milk are projected to be sizable in 2005. Even with some possible softening of market conditions, international markets probably will need substantial quantities of U.S. powder. Prospects for cheese exports are more uncertain. The weak dollar will certainly aid exports, but domestic prices are projected to be high enough to limit attractiveness of U.S. supplies.

U.S. imports of dairy products may slip in 2005, on both a milkfat and skim solids basis. However, decreases in imports likely will be modest. Imports of milkfat within the tariff-rate quotas (TRQ) will be attractive but high-tier imports probably will be considerably smaller. Within-TRQ imports of cheese will generally be attractive, although imports of some unsubsidized European cheeses could be affected by the exchange rate. Imports of skim solids products may decrease even within TRQ.

Further erosion of imports of concentrated milk proteins is possible in 2005. Domestic prices of skim solids may well greatly discourage use of imported proteins in those uses where domestic solids are easily substituted.

Price Volatility Remains

The 2004 price roller coaster had one last up to it. Butter and cheese prices rose during much of November as brisk holiday movement overwhelmed the modest expansion in milk production. The effects may have been compounded by late summer-early autumn price softness that encouraged buyers to delay holiday purchasing. However, market tightness was reportedly not uniform, with butter and some cheese varieties and ages tight but other cheese types more ample.

Substantial declines in wholesale butter and cheese prices have begun as year end holiday needs apparently have been met. Further declines may occur if pipeline holdings become swollen or if late season sales falter. Year end pipeline holdings probably will be key to early 2005 prices. Butter pipelines give signs of going out

of the year tight, possibly quite tight. However, holdings of at least some cheese types might be ample.

Seasonal declines in cheese prices are expected to have been large by early 2005. Falls in butter prices may also be large, but the declines probably will be slowed somewhat by low stocks. Even so, wholesale butter and cheese prices are projected to remain relatively strong through at least the first half of the year. Growth in milk production is not likely to be sudden, and demand should be able to absorb most of it.

Nonfat dry milk prices are in a somewhat different position. Second-half increases were modest and driven mostly by adjustment to international prices. International prices will remain the dominant factor in domestic powder prices. Some slight seasonal weakening is possible (particularly if the dollar recovers a bit) but prices may average above the support purchase price for most of the first half of 2005.

Fall From 2004 Record Milk Price Seen as Limited

Late 2004 recovery will leave average farm milk prices near \$16 per cwt, up about \$3.50 from 2003 and easily a record. Milk prices have averaged above a year earlier since the summer of 2003. The year-to-year rise in farm prices was the largest proportional rise since World War I.

In 2004, the value of milk for cheese exceeded the value of milk for butter-nonfat dry milk by a wide margin. This stood in sharp contrast to most of the 2000-02 period when butter-powder values were dominant. The advantage to cheese is expected to narrow in 2005 as extra milk is expected to lower butter and cheese prices but have little impact on powder prices.

Milk prices are projected to fall to \$13.85-\$14.65 in 2005, still considerably above those of 2002 and 2003. Much will hang on the size and steadiness of the expansion in milk production, where uncertainty is boosted by the BST situation as well as other milk-per-cow factors. Demand growth is expected to be only modestly favorable but could pick up if the economy finds steadier footing. Lastly, behavior by buyers, stung by this year's price volatility, may be somewhat erratic.

Retail dairy prices in 2004 are projected to average about 8 percent above a year earlier, following almost no change in 2003. Although the farm-to-retail price spread posted increases during the second half, the average spread decreased slightly for the second year in a row. Despite the relatively large increase this year, retail dairy prices in the last 5 years have risen less than 3 percent annually, similar to prices of all food and a little less than prices of all items.

Retail prices of manufactured dairy products reacted rather typically to wholesale price swings, lagging changes in both directions, but fluid milk price changes were highly unusual. Late 2003 farm price increases and the early portion of the 2004 rise were almost not seen in retail prices of fluid milk. Retail milk prices then made an unprecedented jump in May. When farm milk prices dropped, retail prices fell relatively quite quickly in August and September. Several factors may have contributed to this unusual pattern. Fluid milk sales have generally been rather weak, leaving retailers concerned that price increases might sap sales even more.

Fluid milk sales make the greatest contribution to net margins for the dairy case, even though gross margins are relatively modest. In addition, supermarkets are being seriously challenged by the mixed-merchandise discount chains. Supermarket milk sales had been affected less than most sales because shopping frequency at the discounters was low. As the frequency has increased, supermarkets have seen a larger share of milk sales being challenged.

Retail dairy prices are expected to increase less than 2 percent in 2005. Increases in the spread are projected to just outweigh the decreases in farm milk prices. However, retail pricing of fluid milk might stay somewhat atypical and unpredictable.

Fed Beef Supplies Remain Tight

Fourth-quarter beef production is going to be about unchanged from the very low levels of last year when the industry was still adjusting to the loss of Canadian slaughter cattle and processing beef from cattle over 30 months of age. Fed cattle slaughter was being pulled forward to meet strong demand. The end result was record cattle and beef prices as cattle were marketed at lighter weights. Last fall cattle slaughter was down 9 percent, but beef production was down 12 percent as commercial dressed carcass weights were 26 pounds below a year earlier. This fall, commercial slaughter weights are about 2 pounds above the record set in fourth-quarter 2002. However, slaughter is down about 4 percent from a year ago resulting in another fourth quarter with production below 6 billion pounds. Poor feedlot conditions in many areas in late November to early December raised concerns for maintaining production in the first half of 2005. The sharpest year-to-year declines are in cow slaughter, with steer and heifer slaughter about unchanged from a year earlier.

Although increasing seasonally, fall cow slaughter is still expected to run 15 percent below a year earlier. Both dairy and beef cow slaughter are being held down as prospects for additional heifers calving and entering the herd in 2005, particularly for beef heifers, appear limited. The number of heifers calving and entering the herd in the first-half of 2004 was below a year earlier and the number of heifers on feed October 1 were above a year earlier. Cull utility cow prices remain well above levels of a year earlier.

On-Feed Inventories Increase Seasonally

The number of cattle on feed on November 1, in feedlots with over 1,000 head capacity, was up nearly 3 percent from a year earlier. Although placements and marketings during October were both down 3 percent from a year earlier, placements exceeded marketings by about 900,000 head. With two fewer slaughter days in October, the marketing pace was fairly strong. However, placements for the quarter are expected to decline about 5 percent due to tight feeder cattle supplies and very strong demand for over-wintering grazing systems. However, abundant moisture in most wheat grazing areas has prevented some calves from being turned out on wheat pasture. Unfortunately, many of the feedlots that these calves are in are also facing extremely muddy conditions. As usual, moisture conditions will dictate whether these calves are placed on full feed rations or turned out on wheat pasture.

Muddy Lots Influence Marketings

Muddy feedlots and reduced gains have added another factor to already tight fed beef supplies. Poor feeding conditions and good post-Thanksgiving beef movement resulted in sharply higher fed cattle prices in early December. Conditions improved to some extent in mid-December with prices declining from near \$90 a cwt to the mid-\$80s. Cattle feeders and packers continue to jockey for prices, with the winner largely a function of feeding conditions and forward commitments on product. Beef supplies are expected to remain very tight and could get even tighter depending on late fall/winter feeding conditions.

Retail Beef Prices Remain Strong

Retail prices for Choice beef have declined since mid-summer, but remain strong with prices averaging 2 percent above a year earlier. The slower fed cattle marketing pace and record steer and heifer federally inspected slaughter weights have resulted in a larger proportion of the fed cattle grading Choice helping to take some pressure off the market. Retail beef prices are expected to remain strong in 2005, with fed cattle supplies remaining very tight. Heifers retained for breeding in 2005 will tighten supplies even more in late 2005 and 2006, resulting in another run toward record prices.

Hogs/Pork

Total U.S. Pork Exports Increase More Than 25 Percent Over 2003

In the first 10 months of 2004, U.S. companies exported 1.8 billion pounds of pork products, 26 percent more than during the same period last year. So far this year, the most important destination markets--in terms of quantity and export share--are Japan, Mexico, Canada, and Taiwan. As the table below shows, these four markets together account for more than 80 percent of 2004 pork exports.

January-October U.S. exports			January-October U.S. export shares	
2004	2003	04/03	2004	2003
Million lb.		% change	%	%
Carcass weight equiv.				
Japan	759	683	11	43.2
Mexico	434	264	64	24.7
Canada	186	150	24	10.6
Taiwan	85	52	63	4.8
				3.7

Source: USDA/ERS.

Exports to Japan Increase, but Export and Market Shares Decline

U.S. exports to Japan through October were 11 percent above a year ago, despite Japanese imposition of the Safeguard in August. The Safeguard is a WTO-legal measure which the Japanese Government can use to protect Japanese hog producers from surges of imported pork products. The Safeguard effectively increases the price of imported pork products by about 25 percent. Economic factors that could explain higher U.S. exports to Japan, despite higher import prices, include Japan's need to substitute for smaller imported beef and poultry supplies. Japanese restrictions on North American beef imports, and Avian Influenza outbreaks in poultry-exporting Asian countries have been major factors in limiting those imports. More recently, the lower valued U.S. dollar is a factor frequently cited as most important in driving the U.S. export sector. With respect to Japan, the U.S. dollar has depreciated more than 21 percent against the Japanese yen since 2002.

Although Japan remains the largest destination for U.S. pork, its share of U.S. exports has declined from 48.7 percent, to 43.2 percent. Japanese import data also show that U.S. pork products accounted for a smaller percentage of total Japanese pork imports, compared with the same period last year, despite a lower valued U.S. dollar.

Japan pork imports		
January-October 2004		
	2004	2003
	%	%
United States	29	33
Denmark	31	29
Canada	21	22

Source: World Trade Atlas.

The loss of the U.S. market share is due to losses on the frozen side of the market. It is likely that Denmark and other smaller European pork-exporting countries, gained market share from the United States and Canada early in 2004 when the EU temporarily re-instituted export subsidies to “rebalance” the EU market.
(<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200404/146105885.pdf>)

Japan frozen pork imports January-October 2004		
	2004	2003
	%	%
United States	18	23
Denmark	40	37
Canada	22	23
Other EU	11	8

Source: World Trade Atlas.

Exports to Mexico Climb; Mexican Share of U.S. Exports Increases Also

Through October, U.S. exports to Mexico have increased 64 percent over the same period of 2003. Early in 2004, the driving factor behind at least part of the increase was the BSE-related reduction in Mexican beef imports from Canada and the United States. But more generally, the increased U.S. pork exports to Mexico are more likely a function of competitively-priced U.S. pork products, a growing Mexican middle class, and an improving retail marketing system in Mexico.

Mexican consumers appear to have a preference for specific pork cuts: hams and picnics, in particular. Such preferences are reflected in cut-out data, presented by the Mexican Pork Confederation:

Comparative cut pork revenue		
	Revenue %	
Product	U.S.	Mexico
Loin/back	33	21
Belly/spare	32	18
Ham	19	35
Picnic	6	15
Boston butt	8	9
Other	2	2

Source: Mexican Pork Confederation Presentation, Washington, D.C., June 10, 2003.

These data suggest that Mexican markets attach a greater value to hams and picnics than do markets in the United States. In Mexico, 35 percent of the value of a hog carcass derived from the ham, while in the United States, hams accounted for 19 percent of the carcass value. The difference in valuation between Mexican and U.S. markets for picnics also stands out: 15 percent in Mexico versus 6 percent in the United States.

Mexican preferences for hams and picnics are reflected in U.S. exports to Mexico. Calculations using U.S. export data, below, indicate that hams and shoulders are a growing share of total exports to Mexico. In 2000, hams and shoulders accounted

for 40 percent of exports to Mexico, while 10 months into 2004, that share has increased to 72 percent.

Tariff Code, Description	Percent of total U.S. exports to Mexico				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
	---percent---				
(0203121000) Hams/shoulders, & cuts, bone in processed frsh/chld	15	15	16	15	14
(0203129000) Hams/shoulders, & cuts, bone in ex processed fr, ch	16	14	21	37	51
(0203221000) Hams, shoulders, & cuts, bone in, processed, frozen	.1	2	2	1	1
(0203229000) Hams/shoulders & cuts, bone in ex processed, frozn	9	19	12	6	6
Total hams/shoulders	40.1	50	51	59	72

*2004 data are January-October
Source: USDA/ERS.

In the summer of 2004, the Mexican Ministry of Economy initiated an anti-dumping investigation of imported U.S. hams (fresh and frozen). The Ministry claims that pork legs have entered the Mexican market at prices significantly below the cost of production. The resolution claims there is sufficient information to determine that there is price discrimination and damage to the Mexican pork industry. The Ministry of Economy has not yet concluded its investigation.

Taiwan an Important Export Destination This Year; Other Asian Markets Lower

U.S. pork exports this year to Taiwan have increased 63 percent over the same period of 2003. Taiwan now accounts for 4.8 percent of U.S. exports, an increase from 3.7 percent last year. Taiwanese demand for U.S. pork products has increased because of an outbreak of Porcine Circovirus in Taiwan, which has reduced Taiwanese domestic pork production. <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200408/146107209.pdf>.

Taiwan's increased demand for U.S. pork contrasts with lower demand from both South Korea and Hong Kong. Exports to South Korea are currently 27 percent lower than last year. So far this year, South Korea accounts for 2.8 percent of U.S. exports, whereas last year at the same time, Korea's export share was 4.9 percent. Exports to Hong Kong are currently 12 percent lower than a year ago. Hong Kong accounted for 1.6 percent of U.S. pork exports through October. Last year at this time, Hong Kong's export share was 2.3 percent.

Part of the reason for lower U.S. exports to Hong Kong and South Korea is likely the increasing competitiveness of competing pork-exporting countries. In Hong Kong, data indicate that imports from China, Vietnam, and Europe have all increased in 2004. Shorter distances could make developing pork export industries in China and Vietnam more competitive in some Asian markets.

(<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200408/146107302.pdf>). Subsidized European pork products also appear to be a factor contributing to lower U.S. exports to both Hong Kong and South Korea
(<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200409/146107462.pdf>).

Market Integration in the North American Hog Industries by Mildred M. Haley

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/NOV04/ldpm12501/>

About 8 percent of the hogs slaughtered in the United States in 2004 will originate in Canada--many more than 10 years ago. Canadian hogs have flowed into the United States in response to significant structural changes in the U.S. pork industry, concurrent with policy changes in Canada. This, combined with a strong U.S./Canadian dollar exchange rate, created incentives to expand hog operations in Ontario and to start production in Manitoba. In 15 years, an open border and pronounced breeding herd efficiencies helped to increase Canadian hog exports to the United States by more than eight-fold.

U.S. Broiler Production Lowered

Estimated 2005 broiler production was decreased by 100 million pounds to 35.1 billion pounds, as recent egg sets have been running considerably lower than earlier this year. The weekly broiler hatchery report continues to show increases in the numbers of broiler chicks being placed for growout. However, over the last 5 weeks (Nov. 6 through Dec. 4), the number of broiler eggs being placed in incubators has averaged 206.7 million per week, up less than 1 percent from the same period in 2003. This data for egg sets indicate that chick placements, on a year-over-year basis, can be expected to be considerably lower in the next several weeks after averaging 3 to 4 percent higher for most of the last 5 months.

U.S. broiler production in fourth-quarter 2004 is estimated at 8.6 billion pounds, 4.4 percent higher than in fourth-quarter 2003. Broiler production in October was 2.9 billion pounds, down 5.2 percent from a year earlier, as October 2004 had two less slaughter days than in October 2003. The loss of a slaughter day normally means close to a 5-percent drop in monthly production. November has two additional slaughter days compared with the previous year and should result in a double-digit increase in production. This follows a third-quarter where production increased 4.6 percent compared with a year earlier. The increase in production is expected to come from both higher numbers of birds going to slaughter and continued growth in their average weights.

Broiler Stocks Move Upward

As year-over-year growth in production has risen in 2004, stocks of broiler products held in cold storage have started to accumulate. The estimate of cold storage holdings of broiler products at the end of October was 796 million pounds, up 33 percent from a year earlier. Over the first 5 months of 2004 stock levels were below the previous year, but starting in June stocks have increased by over 40 million pounds.

With increases in production and growing amounts of product in cold storage, domestic broiler prices have declined. The November 12-city average for whole broilers was 68.1 cents a pound. This was still up 6 percent from the previous year, but prices have fallen around 14 cents a pound from where they were in June. Leg quarter prices were 30 cents per pound in November, slightly higher than the previous year, but leg quarter prices also have fallen since June (down 7 cents a pound). Broiler prices are expected to gradually strengthen over the next several months as lower production and stronger exports should result in stock reductions.

U.S. broiler exports in October 2004 were a record 568 million pounds, slightly less than 5 million pounds above the previous record set last October. This leaves exports for the first 10 months of the year at 3.85 billion pounds, still 6 percent lower than the same period in 2003. The quantity of broiler exports has benefited over the last several months from the decline in prices for most broiler parts. Shipments are also expected to strengthen over the next several months with the reopening of the Chinese market to U.S. poultry products.

Turkey Production Down, Prices Higher

In November, the price for whole turkeys (hens) in the Eastern region averaged 78.3 cents per pound, up 13 percent from the previous year. Wholesale prices for whole birds and parts are expected to decline slightly on a seasonal basis during the next several months, but prices for most turkey products are expected to be supported by the current low levels of cold storage stocks of turkeys (whole birds and parts). At the end of October, stocks of whole birds were 260 million pounds, down 21 percent from the previous year, and stocks of turkey parts were 230 million, 10 percent lower than last year.

Turkey production during the first 10 months of 2004 has totaled 4.5 billion pounds, down 4.9 percent from the same period in 2003. The decline in production has been the result of a smaller number of birds being slaughtered, as the average weight of birds has been slightly higher so far in 2004. Production over the next several months is expected to remain below the previous year. Over the last 6 months, (May through October), the number of poults placed for growout has only totaled 138 million birds, 4.7 percent lower than the same period in 2003.

U.S. turkey exports, after showing a 3.9-percent increase in the third quarter to 134 million pounds, fell somewhat in October to 43.3 million pounds, down 14 percent from the previous year. However, exports to Mexico continue to be strong. Shipments to Mexico were 26.8 million pounds in October boosting exports over the first 10 months of 2004 to 211 million pounds, 9 percent higher than the previous year. Turkey exports in general, and exports to Mexico specifically may be pressured in the coming months by strong U.S. prices and the institution of an inspection fee by the Mexican Government. Prices for whole turkeys have shown double-digit gains compared with the previous year and prices are also higher for other turkey parts. The Mexican Government has announced the institution of inspection fees to help offset the cost of border inspections. The fees are expected to amount to approximately \$450 per truck. This fee structure would more heavily impact items with a lower unit value, such as mechanically deboned turkey meat to be used in the Mexican food processing industry.

Red meat and poultry forecasts

	2001	2002	2003	2004								2005				
	Annual	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	Annual
Production, million lb																
Beef	26,107	27,090	6,282	6,902	7,081	5,973	26,238	5,834	6,254	6,360	5,975	24,423	5,950	6,375	6,500	24,775
Pork	19,138	19,664	4,898	4,741	4,807	5,499	19,945	5,130	4,897	5,046	5,450	20,523	5,175	4,975	5,065	20,800
Lamb and mutton	223	219	49	50	48	52	199	52	46	46	50	194	51	49	47	197
Broilers	31,266	32,240	7,786	8,275	8,448	8,240	32,749	8,208	8,491	8,834	8,600	34,133	8,450	8,775	9,075	35,125
Turkeys	5,562	5,713	1,380	1,439	1,409	1,423	5,650	1,302	1,365	1,387	1,400	5,454	1,285	1,380	1,400	5,515
Total red meat & poultry	83,006	85,669	20,570	21,586	21,965	21,355	85,476	20,687	21,220	21,849	21,646	85,402	21,074	21,723	22,260	87,081
Table eggs, mil. doz.	6,078	6,190	1,524	1,528	1,559	1,596	6,207	1,554	1,572	1,595	1,635	6,356	1,585	1,600	1,605	6,435
Per capita consumption, retail lb 1/																
Beef	66.2	67.6	16.2	16.9	16.9	15.0	64.9	15.9	16.9	16.9	15.7	65.4	15.6	17.1	17.2	65.9
Pork	50.2	51.5	12.6	12.5	12.6	14.1	51.8	13.0	12.4	12.7	13.6	51.7	12.8	12.5	12.8	52.0
Lamb and mutton	1.1	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.2
Broilers	76.6	80.5	19.7	20.7	21.3	19.9	81.6	20.8	21.2	21.8	21.3	85.1	21.0	21.5	22.5	86.6
Turkeys	17.5	17.7	3.6	3.9	4.6	5.3	17.4	3.6	4.0	4.4	5.1	17.1	3.4	3.8	5.4	16.6
Total red meat & poultry	213.6	220.5	52.9	54.9	56.1	55.0	218.9	54.1	55.1	56.5	56.4	222.1	53.8	55.5	57.1	223.7
Eggs, number	252.7	255.5	62.6	63.0	63.8	65.3	254.7	63.5	63.7	63.9	65.6	256.7	63.3	63.7	65.4	256.1
Market prices																
Choice steers, Neb., \$/cwt	72.71	67.04	77.82	78.49	83.07	99.38	84.69	82.16	88.15	83.58	84-85	84.60	81-85	84-90	80-86	82-88
Feeder steers, Ok City, \$/cwt	88.20	80.04	78.48	82.49	94.90	103.51	89.85	87.98	104.58	116.27	110-111	104.83	93-97	93-99	94-100	94-100
Boning utility cows, S. Falls, \$/cwt	44.39	39.23	40.53	46.52	49.84	49.60	46.62	47.50	54.86	56.25	54-55	53.28	52-54	53-57	51-55	52-56
Choice slaughter lambs, San Angelo, \$/cwt	72.04	72.31	91.92	93.71	89.48	92.82	91.98	100.62	97.06	93.62	94.5-95.5	96.58	95-99	92-98	91-97	92-98
Barrows & gilts, N. base, i.e. \$/cwt	45.81	34.92	35.38	42.64	42.90	36.89	39.45	44.18	54.91	56.58	55-56	52.79	50-52	50-54	47-51	47-51
Broilers, 12 City, cents/lb	59.10	55.60	60.30	59.60	63.40	64.60	62.00	73.20	79.30	75.70	68-69	74.20	69-73	69-75	70-76	70-75
Turkeys, Eastern, cents/lb	66.30	64.50	61.10	60.60	59.10	67.40	62.10	62.10	66.60	73.10	76-77	69.60	63-67	65-71	69-75	68-73
Eggs, New York, cents/doz.	67.20	67.10	77.20	73.90	89.90	110.70	87.90	114.90	79.70	66.20	66-67	81.80	63-67	58-62	62-68	63-67
U.S. trade, million lb																
Beef & veal exports	2,269	2,447	582	678	680	578	2,518	36	120	138	150	444	140	170	170	620
Beef & veal imports	3,164	3,218	810	741	619	836	3,006	873	929	940	790	3,532	890	940	940	3,660
Lamb and mutton imports	146	162	40	44	35	48	168	62	47	34	46	189	57	50	47	199
Pork exports	1,560	1,611	412	440	404	461	1,717	523	546	486	550	2,105	540	545	495	2,145
Pork imports	951	1,070	289	301	298	297	1,185	275	265	291	305	1,136	275	290	310	1,215
Broiler exports	5,555	4,807	1,191	1,166	1,181	1,382	4,920	1,024	1,008	1,250	1,225	4,507	1,180	1,260	1,270	4,955
Turkey exports	487	439	103	114	129	137	484	83	93	134	140	450	120	120	140	510

1/ Per capita meat and egg consumption data are revised, incorporating a new population series from the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis based on the 2000 Census.

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and Supporting Materials.

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Published in Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ldp/>

Economic Indicator Forecasts

	2003			2004					2005			
	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	Annual
GDP, chain wtd (bil. 2000 dol.)	10,493	10,599	10,381	10,709	10,778	10,883	10,983	10,837	11,074	11,168	11,262	11,216
CPI-U, annual rate (pct.)	2.3	0.9	1.9	3.6	4.7	1.9	2.5	3.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2
Unemployment (pct.)	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3
Interest (pct.)												
3-month Treasury bill	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.9	1.4	2.3	2.5	2.9	2.7
10-year Treasury bond yield	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.7	5.0	4.8

Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters, Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank, November 2004.

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Dairy Forecasts

	2003			2004					2005			
	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	Annual
Milk cows (thous.)	9,073	9,011	9,084	8,990	8,998	9,033	9,025	9,010	8,990	8,960	8,940	8,945
Milk per cow (pounds)	4,601	4,609	18,748	4,750	4,858	4,671	4,690	18,970	4,845	5,010	4,790	19,455
Milk production (bil. pounds)	41.7	41.5	170.3	42.7	43.7	42.2	42.3	170.9	43.6	44.9	42.8	174.1
Commercial use (bil. pounds)												
Milkfat basis	44.9	45.3	174.6	42.1	43.7	44.5	45.7	176.0	43.1	44.1	45.4	178.5
Skim solids basis	42.4	42.0	166.2	42.4	43.2	43.3	43.4	172.3	43.5	44.1	44.2	175.7
Net removals (bil. pounds)												
Milkfat basis	0.2	0.0	1.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Skim solids basis	1.4	0.7	8.1	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.6	1.9	1.0	0.5	0.8	2.9
Prices (dol./cwt)												
All milk 1/	13.30	14.40	12.52	14.07	18.60	15.47	15.85	15.95	14.90	12.95	13.05	13.85
							-16.05	-16.05	-15.40	-13.75	-14.05	-14.65
Class III	13.29	13.24	11.42	12.66	19.31	14.54	14.65	15.25	12.80	11.85	12.05	12.35
							-14.85	-15.35	-13.80	-12.85	-13.05	-13.35
Class IV	10.05	10.33	10.00	12.43	14.26	12.92	13.10	13.10	12.15	11.40	11.65	11.80
							-13.40	-13.30	-12.75	-12.30	-12.75	-12.70

1/ Simple averages of monthly prices. May not match reported annual averages.

Source: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and supporting materials.

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Data

Colorado State University's Livestock Marketing Information Center (<http://www.lmic.info>) now houses the retail scanner prices for meat database (<http://www.lmic.info/meatscanner/meatscanner.shtml>), including standard tables, the searchable database, and documentation. The raw data underlying the database are from supermarkets across the United States that account for about 20 percent of supermarket sales. Erica Rosa, 720-544-2941.

Recent Report

"U.S. 2003 and 2004 Livestock and Poultry Trade Influenced by Animal Disease and Trade Restrictions" discusses how animal diseases have influenced trade in animal products in the past few years, and is available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/LDP/JUL04/LDPM12001/>

Related Websites

Animal Production and Marketing Issues, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/AnimalProducts/>
Cattle, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/cattle/>
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PRODUCTION INDICATORS

	Nov. '2003	Sep.	Oct. 1,000 Head	2004 Nov. /*
Cattle:				
On feed - US, 1,000+ Hd.	11,043	9,973	10,497	11,334
Net placements	1,829	2,324	2,635	1,635
Marketings	1,537	1,800	1,798	1,625
Broilers:				
Eggs in incubators (000) /1	587,923	654,351	616,708	607,594
Chicks hatched (000) /2	707,627	769,865	757,530	730,789
Hatching egg layers /1	54,692	55,775	55,858	55,486
Pullets placed (000)	6,946	7,758	6,587	7,008
Hvy-type hen slaughter /2	5,031	6,565	6,213	4,930
Turkeys:				
Eggs in incubators (000) /1	28,650	28,288	26,744	27,385
Poult placed (000)	22,155	21,268	20,806	22,232
Eggs:				
Table egg prod. (mil. doz.) /2	525.1	522.4	546.6	534.7
Table egg layers, (000) /1	279,338	284,042	285,381	286,507
Table eggs/100 layers /1	74.3	73.0	73.6	74.2
Chicks hatched (000) /2	30,241	36,750	35,971	38,421
Lt.-type hen slaughter /2	4,356	6,155	5,922	5,010

ESTIMATED RETURNS

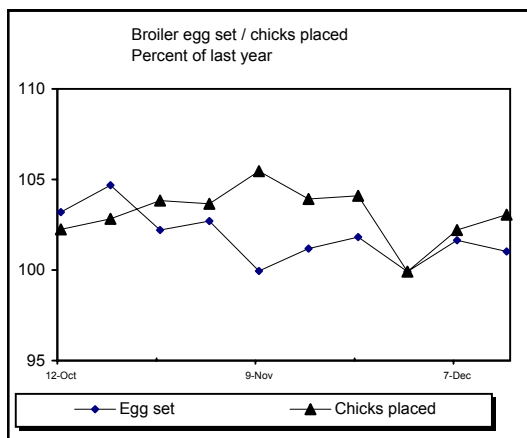
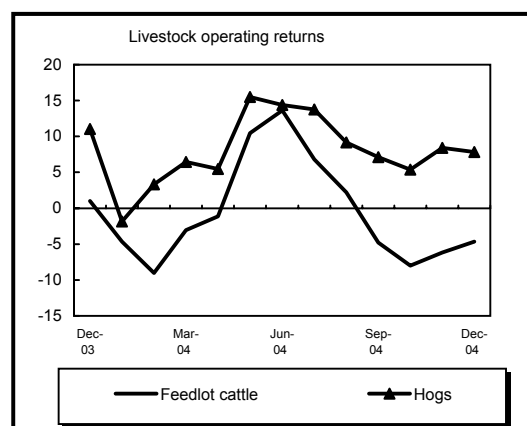
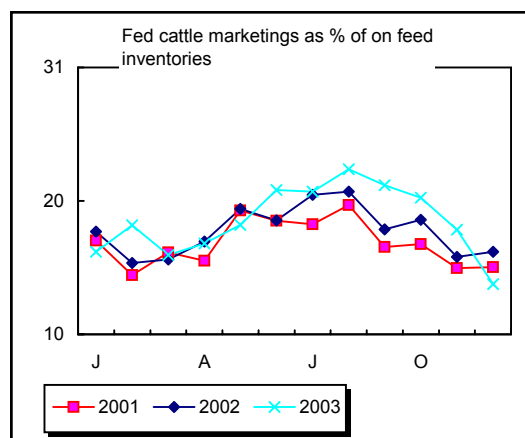
	Dec. '2003	Oct.	Nov. Cents/lb	2004 Dec. /*
Great Plains cattle feedlot				
Breakeven price /3	78.50	93.03	92.47	92.42
Selling price	91.11	85.01	86.31	87.75
Net margin	12.61	-8.02	-6.16	-4.67
N. Central hog farrow to finish				
Breakeven price /3	40.51	48.30	47.59	46.91
Selling price	36.02	53.68	56.00	54.75
Net margin	-4.49	5.38	8.41	7.84
Broiler				
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	Index 113.0	Index 111.4	Index 103.2	Index 94.2
Market Price 1998-2000=100	123.6	113.2	105.6	107.8
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	127.4	113.8	106.4	113.1
Turkey				
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	119.7	135.0	113.7	103.3
Market Price 1998-2000=100	95.8	115.7	116.0	113.6
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	84.9	106.9	117.0	118.3
Egg				
Feed Cost 1998-2000=100	118.6	104.5	92.9	94.2
Market Price 1998-2000=100	145.3	70.3	84.6	98.7
Price - Cost 1998-2000=100	159.3	52.4	80.3	101.1

/1 First of month.

/2 Last month estimated.

/3 Does not include capital replacement cost.

/* estimate.



MEAT STATISTICS

	Jan. - Dec. 2003	Jan. - Dec. 2004	2004					
			Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	/*
Commercial production			<i>Million pounds</i>					
Beef	26,238	24,558	2,151	2,104	2,114	1,943	2,053	
Veal	192	167	14	13	12	14	15	
Pork	19,945	20,545	1,698	1,772	1,779	1,797	1,896	
Lamb	200	194	15	16	16	17	17	
Total red meat	46,574	45,464	3,878	3,905	3,922	3,770	3,981	
Broilers	32,749	34,155	2,988	2,970	2,895	2,812	2,916	
Other chicken	503	500	46	46	44	37	41	
Turkeys	5,650	5,429	468	458	466	465	444	
Total poultry	38,902	40,083	3,502	3,475	3,404	3,314	3,401	
Total meat & poultry	85,476	85,547	7,380	7,380	7,326	7,084	7,382	

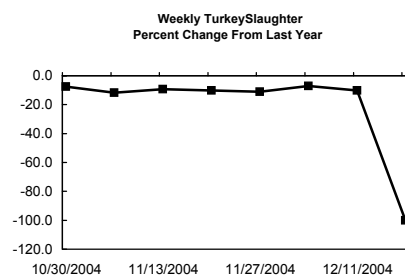
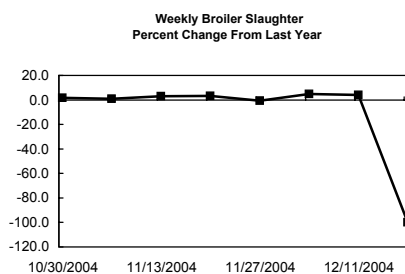
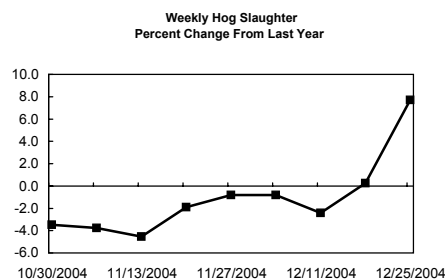
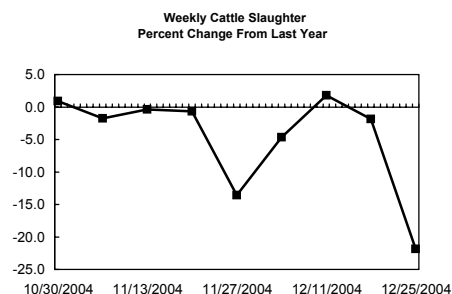
	Jan. - Dec. 2003	Jan. - Dec. 2004	2004					
			Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	/*
Commercial slaughter/**			<i>Thousand head</i>					
Cattle	35,494	32,734	2,820	2,736	2,746	2,541	2,702	
Steers	17,459	16,454	1,481	1,394	1,329	1,230	1,297	
Heifers	11,268	10,536	863	862	927	820	873	
Beef Cows	3,219	2,771	216	225	240	253	259	
Dairy Cows	2,910	2,405	203	200	201	196	227	
Bulls and stags	639	568	57	54	49	42	46	
Calves	1,001	847	73	67	63	68	78	
Sheep	2,979	2,844	233	244	241	242	249	
Hogs	100,931	103,584	8,720	8,998	8,970	8,964	9,387	
Barrows & gilts	97,431	99,977	8,418	8,698	8,683	8,666	9,045	
Sows	3,256	3,343	281	281	267	273	314	
Broilers	8,536,865	8,788,281	770,656	753,919	730,381	711,275	744,025	
Turkeys	267,781	254,455	22,538	21,644	21,736	22,890	20,125	

		2004					
	Dec. 2003	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	/*
F.I. dressed weight		<i>Pounds</i>					
Cattle	747	769	776	777	772	769	
Calves	200	195	195	202	206	207	
Sheep	70	66	68	68	69	70	
Hogs	201	196	198	199	202	203	

Beginning cold storage stocks		<i>Million pounds</i>					
Beef	373.8	427.0	446.0	457.2	452.6	455.9	
Pork	438.9	373.4	389.7	422.1	426.8	431.1	
Bellies	33.1	23.4	15.2	11.3	16.0	34.0	
Hams	73.6	84.4	99.0	108.5	96.8	63.1	
Total chicken	569.3	730.3	715.5	777.9	802.0	768.9	
Turkey	350.7	599.6	600.2	527.4	478.2	294.2	
Frozen eggs	14.9	16.7	17.3	18.7	17.9	17.2	

/* Estimates with exception of Cold Storage

/** Slaughter classes are estimated



LIVESTOCK PRICES

	2003	2004					
	Dec.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	/*
Cattle prices							
Steers, Choice, 11-13 cwt							
Texas Panhandle	91.11	84.28	82.74	85.49	86.31	87.75	
Nebraska Direct	90.75	84.15	82.33	84.03	84.64	88.15	
Cows - Sioux Falls							
Utility breaking	52.88	58.25	57.60	55.00	55.25	53.75	
Utility boning	48.13	56.13	54.90	52.75	50.88	52.00	
Feeder Cattle - Oklahoma City							
Steers: Med. #1							
500-550 lb	111.98	130.31	122.18	124.89	125.76	124.73	
600-650 lb	103.88	122.28	117.48	115.13	114.16	109.73	
750-800 lb	101.63	116.73	114.99	114.61	110.73	105.24	
Heifers: Med. #1							
450-500 lb	99.92	123.83	117.13	118.89	102.79	117.15	
700-750 lb	94.07	112.04	111.41	109.56	102.79	99.68	

Hog prices

Barrows and gilts						
National base 51-52% lean (live equivalent = carcass x .74)	36.02	56.19	55.34	53.68	56.23	54.75
Sows						
Iowa-S. Minn. #1-2, 300-400 lb	26.83	47.56	43.26	42.99	49.26	46.50

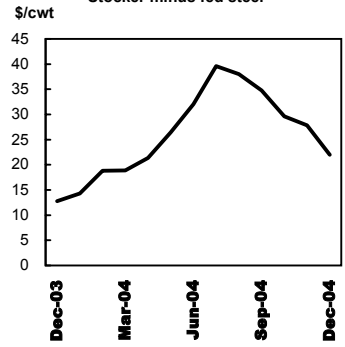
Sheep & lamb prices

San Angelo, TX						
Slaughter lambs, Choice	96.17	91.12	92.25	91.75	95.58	98.85
Ewes, Good	49.25	46.69	48.44	47.50	52.17	58.70
Feeder lambs, Choice	120.00	119.44	119.12	115.31	119.50	122.50

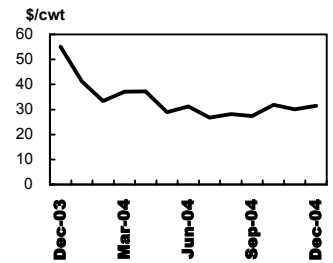
GRAIN AND FEED PRICES

	2003	2004				
	Dec.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec. /*
			\$/bu			
Corn, #2 Yellow, Gen. III	2.38	2.17	1.98	1.77	1.79	1.86
Wheat, HRW Ord., K.C.	4.21	3.61	3.89	3.84	4.02	4.08
			\$/ton			
SBM, 48% Solvent, Decatur	231.11	205.34	175.51	155.37	153.90	161.15
Alfalfa Hay, U.S. Avg.	87.00	98.40	98.40	98.40	98.40	98.40
Grass Hay, U.S. Avg.	66.50	70.90	70.90	70.90	70.90	70.90

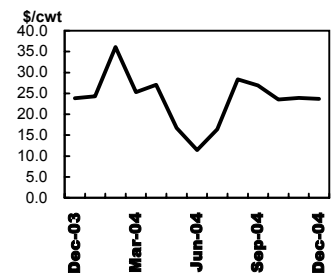
Cattle price spread
Stocker minus fed steer



Steer - hog price spread
Fed steer minus live hog



Lamb spread
Feeder minus slaughter lamb



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/* Estimates
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Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Situation and Outlook

WHOLESALE PRICES

2003

	Dec.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	/*
Beef, Central U.S.							
Boxed beef cutout			\$/cwt				
Choice 1-3 550-700 lb	153.71	139.33	137.82	138.45	135.64	143.30	
Choice 1-3 700-850 lb	151.83	137.55	136.97	136.22	133.64	141.50	
Select 1-3 700-850 lb	140.01	132.33	130.20	131.78	128.09	135.10	
Canner-Cutter Cows	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Bnls. beef, 90% fresh	125.69	146.19	144.78	136.70	137.86	137.25	
Importd bnls. beef 90% frz.	125.63	143.38	145.63	136.88	135.79	132.50	
Hide & offal value	10.31	8.31	8.18	7.87	7.99	8.20	
Veal carcass, 220-280 lb	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Pork, Central U.S.							
Pork cutout composite	55.71	77.21	73.82	73.52	75.54	75.00	
Loins, 14-19 lb BI 1/4" trim	93.72	116.93	119.22	110.00	102.92	111.00	
Bellies, 12-14 lb skin on trmd.	81.00	99.92	92.00	88.90	91.50	89.00	
Hams, 20-23 lb BI trmd. TS1	41.29	74.98	73.08	75.05	82.35	74.75	
Trimnings, 72% fresh	41.25	71.65	72.49	75.63	72.89	70.50	
Lamb, East Coast							
55 lb Down, Choice	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
55-65 lb, Choice	182.10	185.91	182.50	178.57	179.22	195.75	
cents/lb							
Broilers							
12 City Avg.	65.71	75.44	70.07	68.79	68.08	68.00	
Georgia dock	67.69	78.39	76.74	74.90	73.48	72.50	
<i>Northeast</i>							
Breast, boneless	146.17	180.20	146.62	131.19	125.04	127.50	
Breast, Ribs on	81.64	113.44	90.70	82.78	76.59	75.75	
Legs, whole	37.51	41.81	40.92	36.55	37.29	40.00	
Leg quarters	29.67	33.00	31.83	30.36	30.04	28.90	
Turkeys							
<i>Eastern region</i>							
Toms, 16-24 lb	60.45	72.50	73.98	75.95	74.21	71.25	
Hens, 8-16 lb	66.85	73.32	74.69	76.89	78.29	77.50	
Breast, 4-8 lb	91.31	95.60	97.63	98.40	98.63	98.50	
Drumsticks	42.53	30.36	42.97	42.70	38.55	39.25	
Wings, full cut	41.34	34.76	49.95	56.33	52.85	48.25	
Eggs, grd A, lg, doz							
12 City Metro	106.22	58.37	53.92	51.37	61.87	72.15	
New York	109.33	63.41	65.29	57.85	71.10	80.00	

/* Estimates.

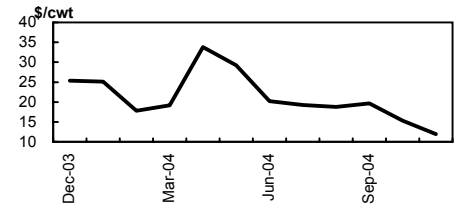
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Situation and Outlook

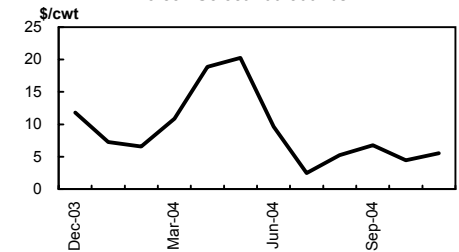
Hog to cutout price spread
Pork + Offal - Live hog



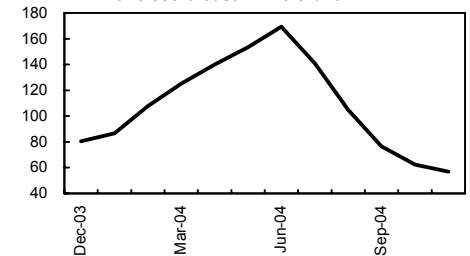
Steer to cutout price spread
Beef + Offal - Fed Steer



Boxed beef cutout spread
Choice - Select 700-800 lbs



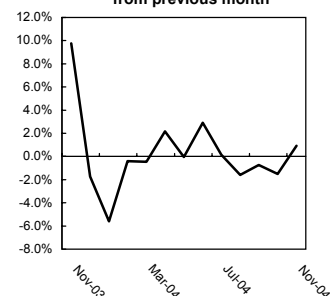
Broiler price spread
Boneless breast - Whole bird



RETAIL PRICES & SPREADS

	Jun-2004	Jul-2004	Aug-2004	Sep-2004	Oct-2004	Nov-2004
Retail prices	Cents/lb					
Beef - Choice	417.3	417.9	411.3	408.2	402.1	405.7
Beef - All fresh	368.7	368.5	363.6	361.9	359.9	361.0
Ground beef	207.8	209.5	213.0	212.1	221.0	221.6
Round roast	375.9	375.9	369.3	384.0	377.0	383.6
T-bone steak	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pork	283.0	284.7	288.5	289.8	288.7	281.1
Bacon	342.0	347.0	362.2	358.9	360.6	343.8
Chops	316.7	328.9	315.5	322.6	301.1	300.5
Sausage	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Broilers - Composite	164.2	165.2	166.3	166.9	168.4	163.2
Whole, fresh	106.0	107.7	109.2	107.8	107.8	103.9
Breast - bone in	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leg - bone in	131.6	133.3	135.1	136.8	139.8	130.2
Turkey; whole frozen	111.7	112.9	114.2	108.8	112.3	99.6
Eggs, Gr A, Lg, Doz	131.1	125.3	127.7	114.5	108.9	88.6
Price indexes	1982-84=100					
CPI - All	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191.0
All food	186.3	186.8	186.8	186.7	187.9	188.2
All meat	184.2	185.8	185.7	185.9	185.0	185.2
Beef & veal	197.5	198.3	197.4	196.9	195.6	196.7
Pork	175.7	178.5	179.3	180.4	179.2	177.4
Poultry	182.6	184.9	186.8	186.4	186.9	183.4
Price Spreads	Cents / retail lb					
Beef						
Farm to wholesale	35.6	34.0	31.8	28.9	27.8	21.6
Wholesale to retail	187.7	201.6	197.4	200.8	189.3	197.2
Farmers share (%)	46	44	44	44	46	46
Pork						
Farm to wholesale	33.7	33.6	35.8	37.1	38.0	31.5
Wholesale to retail	147.0	148.9	154.4	156.1	157.0	151.4
Farmers share (%)	36	36	34	33	32	35
Poultry and eggs						
Wholesale to retail						
Broilers	75.6	78.6	86.6	97.7	103.9	102.9
Retail to consumer						
Turkey	33.9	33.3	32.5	25.7	26.9	14.0
Eggs Cents/doz	63.3	63.7	70.3	61.6	58.5	27.7

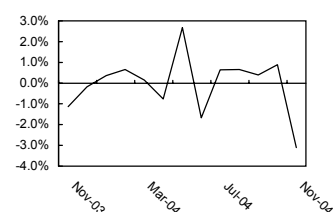
Retail beef price
Percent change
from previous month



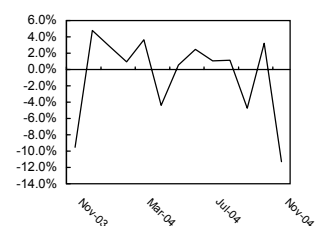
Retail pork price
Percent change
from previous month



Composite broiler price
Percent change
from previous month



Retail Turkey Price
Percent change from previous month



Sources: Economic Research Service, USDA and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Cumulative U.S. Meat and Livestock Trade

Updated: 12/14/2004

	2002	2003	Jan. - Oct-03	Jan. - Oct-04
Beef and veal imports				
	Carcass wt., 1,000 lb			
Australia	1,136,758	1,128,589	939,757	890,521
New Zealand	603,931	644,607	572,220	593,271
Canada	1,090,894	740,065	550,988	883,161
Brazil	200,785	206,227	170,194	177,569
Argentina	85,349	87,890	69,476	92,933
Central America	68,325	79,118	62,890	74,045
Uruguay	14,095	103,372	70,506	318,009
Mexico	16,707	15,883	12,766	15,768
Other	756	161	151	504
Total	3,217,599	3,005,910	2,448,948	3,045,781
Beef and veal exports				
Japan	771,074	918,014	789,131	9,711
Canada	240,550	226,681	199,310	37,442
Mexico	629,252	586,390	520,615	254,463
South Korea	597,301	586,617	494,612	987
Caribbean	23,015	21,691	17,509	20,773
Russia	17,388	10,626	10,228	748
Other	169,125	168,230	135,688	23,714
Total	2,447,704	2,518,249	2,167,093	347,837
Cattle imports				
	Head			
Mexico	816,460	1,239,531	834,924	1,043,179
Canada	1,686,508	512,353	508,322	2,981
Over 700 lbs.	1,259,536	439,016	439,016	-
Immediate slaughter	1,024,378	354,044	354,044	-
440-700 lbs.	221,782	12,520	11,500	903
Total	2,502,973	1,751,896	1,343,258	1,046,160
Cattle exports				
Mexico	106,019	22,437	17,577	1,136
Canada	134,220	68,394	60,689	25,902
Total	244,394	98,818	85,606	27,107
Lamb imports				
	Carcass wt., 1,000 lb			
Australia	68,073	75,320	59,288	65,441
New Zealand	48,565	59,159	50,210	54,732
Total	117,047	134,830	109,808	120,781
Mutton imports				
Australia	41,094	28,641	20,843	27,853
New Zealand	1,787	4,262	2,373	5,529
Total	42,886	32,912	23,226	33,382
Lamb and mutton exports				
Mexico	5,435	5,013	3,900	4,683
Caribbean	836	689	601	515
Canada	328	181	135	798
Total	7,101	6,596	5,268	6,351
Pork imports				
	Product wt., metric tons			
Canada	879,949	971,328	812,494	740,815
Denmark	123,013	147,110	123,911	118,612
Poland	24,420	22,630	19,060	19,453
Netherlands	6,730	5,887	4,759	6,594
Hungary	4,806	5,457	4,914	1,276
Other	31,809	32,789	27,537	32,721
Total	1,070,727	1,185,202	992,676	919,471

	2002	2003	Jan. - Oct-03	Jan. - Oct-04
Pork exports				
Japan	775,945	793,339	682,712	759,600
Canada	188,351	191,505	150,126	186,089
Mexico	313,695	349,983	264,244	434,062
Russia	41,397	16,386	13,337	39,742
South Korea	70,836	79,642	68,115	49,845
Hong Kong	28,393	44,620	31,915	28,238
China (Mainland)	23,803	44,658	37,500	66,831
China (Taiwan)	50,758	70,129	51,734	84,574
Caribbean	20,554	16,115	12,049	19,474
Other	98,497	110,321	90,071	91,280
Total	1,612,228	1,716,698	1,401,802	1,759,735
Hog imports				
			Head	
Canada	5,740,073	7,438,063	6,006,769	7,071,073
Under 110 lbs.	3,757,882	4,971,044	4,084,069	4,737,448
Under 15 lbs. (From 7/1/03)	-	1,446,950	973,938	2,585,762
Total	5,740,675	7,438,254	6,006,960	7,071,619
Hog exports				
Total	205,121	169,881	99,768	152,867
Broiler exports				
		Ready to cook, 1,000 lb		
Japan	120,682	101,635	94,421	52,009
Mexico	324,148	363,677	285,669	347,624
Hong Kong	763,952	595,602	494,625	200,057
Singapore	99,547	121,216	98,328	82,268
Canada	191,517	202,342	171,361	186,786
Russia	1,520,532	1,458,045	1,235,253	1,203,660
CIS (excluding Russia)	189,456	257,400	186,879	371,713
Eastern Europe	109,774	127,578	117,229	146,815
Baltic countries	102,053	134,483	111,998	117,731
Caribbean	287,075	332,411	269,556	231,204
Other	1,385,523	1,558,033	1,305,356	1,139,839
Total	4,807,184	4,920,013	4,101,119	3,848,501
Turkey exports				
Mexico	186,284	242,474	194,170	211,699
Canada	14,445	14,740	13,110	14,538
South Korea	12,990	9,706	8,610	1,526
Russia	29,026	25,168	21,247	25,264
Hong Kong	70,199	45,673	38,026	8,338
China (Taiwan)	23,771	30,118	27,300	21,367
Other	101,864	115,834	94,234	70,572
Total	438,579	483,714	396,697	353,303
Shell egg exports				
		1,000 doz.		
Canada	30,496	26,391	21,310	38,858
Hong Kong	22,685	15,868	14,764	10,074
Mexico	11,952	14,361	12,473	5,457
Caribbean	9,951	10,908	9,315	10,821
Other	13,568	19,829	17,845	19,104
Total	88,652	87,356	75,707	84,315

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

Contacts for further information: beef, veal, and cattle--Monte Vandever, (202) 694-5158, montev@ers.usda.gov;
pork and hogs-- Mildred Haley, (202) 694-5176, mhaley@ers.usda.gov.
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Monthly U.S. Meat and Livestock Trade

Updated: 12/14/04

	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	Jul-04	Aug-04	Sep-04	Oct-04
Beef and veal imports													
	Carcass wt., 1,000 lb												
Australia	110,679	88,183	100,649	134,456	39,069	62,405	83,959	67,782	99,911	106,696	92,730	92,605	110,909
New Zealand	20,315	26,012	46,375	71,938	71,079	76,456	69,940	61,002	73,092	82,677	46,415	24,642	16,030
Canada	90,410	97,536	91,542	74,560	78,921	92,808	95,115	77,864	102,962	86,132	88,564	86,490	99,746
Brazil	17,168	15,419	20,614	20,101	14,598	15,553	16,572	16,545	15,230	17,446	17,663	21,394	22,466
Argentina	10,808	7,827	10,587	8,313	7,721	7,806	7,130	9,894	12,620	11,073	10,458	9,065	8,853
Central America	7,396	7,111	9,117	6,844	8,312	8,378	5,912	6,361	5,946	7,716	7,868	7,274	9,435
Uruguay	20,580	15,563	17,303	23,961	23,728	21,773	26,982	29,080	39,561	42,683	39,836	35,102	35,302
Mexico	1,579	1,491	1,625	1,567	1,100	1,354	1,740	1,362	2,105	1,615	1,499	1,706	1,720
Other	3	6	4	233	4	6	0	73	13	35	38	96	5
Total	278,937	259,145	297,816	341,973	244,530	286,539	307,350	269,962	351,441	356,074	305,072	278,374	304,465
Beef and veal exports													
Japan	90,502	75,129	53,753	350	85	543	1,555	832	1,109	1,419	1,623	1,007	1,190
Canada	14,826	15,163	12,208	741	1,188	1,421	1,582	4,519	5,381	4,988	5,540	4,574	7,510
Mexico	49,544	30,583	35,191	1,304	2,748	13,197	24,391	30,939	35,961	37,201	38,363	28,830	41,528
South Korea	49,188	46,581	45,424	29	1	518	80	63	108	87	41	53	7
Caribbean	2,019	1,877	2,305	1,675	2,208	2,141	2,921	1,641	2,074	2,683	1,674	1,615	2,141
Russia	612	357	41	-	0	-	40	101	-	37	-	570	-
Other	19,797	17,945	14,598	2,213	2,381	2,048	2,493	2,356	1,940	2,054	2,282	3,099	2,848
Total	226,488	187,636	163,519	6,312	8,610	19,867	33,062	40,451	46,573	48,469	49,522	39,747	55,225
Cattle imports													
	Head												
Mexico	161,342	204,066	200,541	69,004	106,948	130,779	117,312	97,153	101,335	94,479	83,940	102,601	139,628
Canada	-	-	4,031	2,981	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 700 lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Immediate slaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
440-700 lbs.	-	-	1,020	903	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	161,342	204,066	204,572	71,985	106,948	130,779	117,312	97,153	101,335	94,479	83,940	102,601	139,628
Cattle exports													
Mexico	1,175	3,154	1,706	172	-	-	-	-	117	421	9	-	417
Canada	1,598	3,870	3,835	2,507	-	-	400	12,022	8,395	650	575	561	792
Total	3,648	7,287	5,925	2,709	-	18	403	12,038	8,514	1,071	584	561	1,209
Lamb imports													
	Carcass wt., 1,000 lb												
Australia	6,095	7,871	8,161	7,789	5,368	9,734	7,588	6,759	7,409	6,638	4,882	3,824	5,450
New Zealand	4,776	4,656	4,293	6,075	7,063	7,928	6,838	6,891	5,286	4,494	4,277	2,642	3,238
Total	10,935	12,535	12,487	13,971	12,471	17,742	14,426	13,716	12,760	11,132	9,237	6,527	8,798
Mutton imports													
Australia	2,462	3,002	4,796	6,707	3,908	3,861	1,742	1,738	1,885	1,986	1,548	1,906	2,571
New Zealand	433	550	1,338	1,628	1,431	612	66	53	404	379	636	212	106
Total	2,896	3,552	6,134	8,336	5,339	4,473	1,808	1,791	2,289	2,366	2,184	2,119	2,677
Lamb and mutton exports													
Mexico	221	577	537	552	539	1,251	3	41	338	290	431	528	709
Caribbean	66	31	57	43	95	100	130	27	12	27	36	20	25
Canada	40	19	27	-	134	8	78	55	104	72	154	101	92
Total	337	687	642	604	838	1,423	226	259	464	407	631	670	830
Pork imports													
	Carcass wt., 1,000 lb												
Canada	88,339	81,292	77,541	73,349	69,721	76,693	66,682	65,920	76,190	78,803	85,481	76,564	71,413
Denmark	10,803	11,860	11,339	12,230	11,360	15,794	12,184	12,156	13,141	8,793	12,212	10,921	9,821
Poland	2,082	2,045	1,525	1,693	1,743	2,053	1,378	1,762	2,611	1,709	2,136	1,555	2,814
Netherlands	344	720	408	259	451	715	822	569	685	1,017	608	832	637
Hungary	290	265	278	478	-	-	-	-	66	136	132	132	331
Other	2,295	2,408	2,844	2,844	2,152	3,162	3,417	3,293	3,758	3,128	3,367	3,193	4,406
Total	104,152	98,590	93,936	90,853	85,427	98,418	84,482	83,701	96,452	93,585	103,936	93,197	89,421

Monthly U.S. Meat and Livestock Trade, continued

	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	Jul-04	Aug-04	Sep-04	Oct-04
Pork exports													
Japan	58,275	55,126	55,502	65,999	75,190	83,038	86,241	86,022	81,592	79,498	62,320	61,252	78,450
Canada	19,312	22,878	18,501	17,890	17,112	20,653	16,696	20,485	16,943	15,031	16,406	24,060	20,813
Mexico	35,376	38,001	47,737	43,350	36,840	46,124	40,648	40,473	42,605	36,411	41,849	52,412	53,349
Russia	1,409	2,021	1,028	882	3,691	6,482	3,434	3,403	2,952	2,788	3,652	4,477	7,980
South Korea	5,155	5,825	5,702	3,155	6,260	8,344	7,210	6,892	2,984	2,950	3,848	3,870	4,330
Hong Kong	3,650	6,622	6,083	1,770	2,632	3,539	5,626	4,211	2,965	1,922	1,425	1,308	2,841
China (Mainland)	4,823	3,358	3,800	3,193	3,398	3,866	5,563	5,147	8,377	10,886	8,870	6,761	10,770
China (Taiwan)	7,057	8,950	9,445	8,862	12,961	13,851	11,533	7,798	5,780	5,374	5,418	5,317	7,681
Caribbean	1,640	2,001	2,065	1,665	1,654	1,938	1,615	1,945	1,704	1,662	1,386	2,338	3,566
Other	9,504	12,133	8,117	7,311	10,968	11,028	9,680	8,796	6,705	6,774	7,895	7,607	14,517
Total	146,202	156,916	157,979	154,077	170,706	198,862	188,246	185,173	172,606	163,296	153,069	169,401	204,297
Hog imports													
					Head								
Canada	728,590	667,950	763,344	805,534	670,666	733,110	712,856	638,900	672,003	731,182	709,711	754,728	642,383
Under 110 lbs.	444,102	405,456	481,519	515,961	446,716	484,097	491,040	442,161	460,893	508,349	482,829	505,246	400,156
Under 15 lbs. (From 7/1/03)	244,646	215,380	257,632	290,181	242,716	264,337	279,244	237,804	241,747	295,114	252,657	279,794	202,168
Total	728,590	667,950	763,344	805,534	671,212	733,110	712,856	638,900	672,003	731,182	709,711	754,728	642,383
Hog exports													
Total	10,285	38,423	31,690	33,429	23,228	20,132	11,849	5,102	8,678	6,357	11,589	19,628	12,875
Broiler exports													
					Ready to cook, 1,000 lb								
Japan	7,655	4,137	3,077	5,003	4,391	97	86	19	457	7,611	12,898	10,736	10,711
Mexico	37,469	31,437	46,572	27,781	32,363	24,646	31,145	39,969	39,495	34,166	37,111	42,537	38,411
Hong Kong/M. China	51,290	55,945	45,032	43,504	22,485	2,048	1,596	5,435	15,814	17,640	30,082	32,044	29,407
Guatemala	9,537	10,497	12,391	9,331	8,476	7,191	10,604	8,909	5,848	6,686	8,133	6,585	10,505
Canada	18,258	17,043	13,939	17,539	16,211	17,571	19,527	24,015	25,431	20,131	14,110	14,691	17,560
Russia	206,681	144,783	78,009	53,891	87,185	135,856	135,033	113,253	93,197	118,490	129,172	137,936	199,646
CIS (excluding Russia)	23,022	37,303	33,218	15,447	9,953	18,580	28,499	39,618	41,757	45,675	46,946	45,772	79,465
Eastern Europe	3,899	4,609	5,740	8,297	7,843	11,878	10,035	10,669	12,466	17,686	21,420	21,103	25,418
Baltic countries	13,019	13,696	8,789	14,731	24,056	14,859	1,714	11,159	416	3,605	877	12,386	33,927
Caribbean	42,804	34,651	28,204	38,273	21,173	19,013	14,055	21,461	29,686	31,958	15,965	13,328	26,292
Other	149,169	101,129	88,692	128,174	88,486	87,226	69,428	70,947	75,905	103,079	95,478	93,610	96,302
Total	562,803	455,230	363,664	361,973	322,623	338,965	321,721	345,455	340,473	406,727	412,192	430,729	567,644
Turkey exports													
Mexico	28,610	22,813	25,491	19,843	16,496	13,644	12,360	18,507	22,031	24,320	27,959	29,691	26,848
Canada	1,046	970	661	1,429	1,266	1,137	1,319	882	1,170	1,643	1,754	1,566	2,372
South Korea	520	921	175	757	103	10	114	52	13	227	79	62	108
Russia	3,960	3,690	231	28	1,114	2,651	3,292	4,571	3,642	3,524	2,170	2,083	2,189
Hong Kong	4,502	3,721	3,926	1,261	77	46	53	306	843	534	1,825	2,554	838
China (Taiwan)	1,829	1,168	1,651	1,742	792	1,405	677	1,929	2,466	5,050	4,397	1,723	1,185
Other	9,981	11,978	9,622	6,743	6,769	5,375	5,864	7,898	4,943	5,510	8,496	9,207	9,767
Total	50,448	45,261	41,756	31,804	26,617	24,269	23,678	34,145	35,107	40,808	46,681	46,885	43,308
Shell egg exports													
					1,000 doz.								
Canada	2,943	2,430	2,651	883	1,443	1,775	3,960	4,820	5,694	5,392	4,018	5,489	5,385
Hong Kong	750	542	562	395	561	407	680	947	1,148	1,533	1,775	1,231	1,399
Mexico	1,182	979	909	700	630	40	402	529	459	620	563	763	748
Caribbean	860	786	807	890	762	928	933	787	1,028	843	935	1,284	2,431
Other	1,106	876	1,107	1,414	928	706	2,629	1,703	2,389	2,829	4,330	981	1,195
Total	6,842	5,613	6,036	4,282	4,324	3,855	8,603	8,787	10,718	11,218	11,623	9,747	11,158

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

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U.S. dairy situation at a glance 1/

	Unit	2001	2002	2003	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03
Milk production:								
Production (20 States)	Mil. lb.	142,992	146,981	147,856	11,731	12,083	11,709	12,313
Milk cows (20 States)	Thou.	7,746	7,785	7,775	7,764	7,743	7,721	7,713
Milk per cow (20 States)	Lb.	18,460	18,881	19,017	1,511	1,561	1,517	1,596
Production (U.S. est.)	Mil. lb.	165,332	170,063	170,312	13,464	13,904	13,469	14,159
Milk prices:								
All milk	Dol./cwt	15.05	12.11	12.53	14.50	15.00	14.40	13.80
Milk eligible for fluid use	Dol./cwt	15.09	12.11	12.55	14.50	15.00	14.40	13.80
Manufacturing grade milk	Dol./cwt	13.44	10.93	11.80	14.10	14.60	13.80	12.70
Class III (cheese milk) 3.5% fat	Dol./cwt	13.10	10.42	11.42	14.30	14.39	13.47	11.87
Class IV (butter-powder milk) 3.5% fat	Dol./cwt	13.76	10.81	10.00	10.05	10.16	10.30	10.52
Slaughter cow price, South St. Paul	Dol./cwt	44.78	40.09	46.88	50.09	51.35	52.69	53.43
Chicago Mercantile Exchange prices:								
Butter	Dol./lb.	1.6630	1.1059	1.1450	1.1731	1.1846	1.2057	1.2969
American cheese, 40-pound blocks	Dol./lb.	1.4387	1.1822	1.3172	1.6000	1.5876	1.3932	1.3383
American cheese, barrels	Dol./lb.	1.4052	1.1438	1.2703	1.5640	1.5364	1.2949	1.2621
Wholesale price:								
Nonfat dry milk, Central States	Dol./lb.	1.0083	0.9308	0.8439	0.8500	0.8523	0.8500	0.8477
Retail prices:								
Consumer Price Index	1982-84=100	177.1	179.9	184.0	185.2	185.0	184.5	184.3
All food	1982-84=100	173.1	176.2	180.0	180.7	181.7	182.4	183.6
Dairy products	1982-84=100	167.1	168.1	167.9	170.3	171.8	171.2	173.0
Fluid milk	Dec 1997=100	112.7	110.6	111.5	115.3	117.2	117.3	117.5
Other dairy products	Dec 1997=100	112.5	114.5	115.0	115.6	115.8	116.0	116.7
Dairy product output:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	1,231.8	1,355.1	1,242.4	73.3	96.8	88.4	114.6
American cheese	Mil. lb.	3,544.2	3,691.0	3,669.5	292.2	305.1	291.1	321.2
Other-than-American cheese	Mil. lb.	4,716.4	4,856.3	4,928.5	416.5	434.9	419.0	437.7
Frozen products 2/	Mil. gal.	1,300.3	1,264.5	1,292.5	106.0	100.9	84.0	81.8
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	103,969	108,558	107,099	8,300	8,778	8,093	8,932
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	1,413.8	1,595.9	1,589.0	96.8	106.9	110.9	141.7
Beginning stocks:								
Commercial butter	Mil. lb.	24.0	55.5	157.3	244.3	197.0	159.1	113.8
Commercial American cheese	Mil. lb.	521.1	448.3	493.1	537.8	508.0	481.6	460.3
Other cheese	Mil. lb.	185.2	210.9	236.8	247.6	245.3	231.3	228.3
Manufacturers' nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	146.3	124.5	98.9	71.3	63.4	70.0	87.2
All commercial (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	6,839	7,041	9,891	12,352	11,000	9,787	8,542
All commercial (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	8,801	8,085	8,531	8,853	8,404	8,036	7,947
All Government (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	139	218	268	733	717	718	604
All Government (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	6,028	9,070	12,212	13,903	13,512	12,590	11,561
Commercial disappearance:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	1,275.4	1,288.1	1,309.2	119.9	135.7	135.8	140.3
American cheese	Mil. lb.	3,681.7	3,714.5	3,707.6	327.2	337.3	317.3	300.6
Other-than-American cheese	Mil. lb.	5,058.9	5,218.6	5,340.9	451.7	488.7	465.2	478.9
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	946.4	813.6	921.9	74.3	89.0	86.2	83.4
All products:								
m.e.-fat	Mil. lb.	169,492	170,871	174,636	15,043	15,455	15,077	14,784
Milkfat	Mil. lb.	6,227	5,991	6,398	543	572	564	559
Skim solids	Mil. lb.	14,177	14,183	14,379	1,187	1,263	1,212	1,167
USDA net removals:								
Butter	Mil. lb.	0.0	0.0	29.1	2.5	1.3	0.7	-2.0
Cheese	Mil. lb.	3.9	15.8	41.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.7
Nonfat dry milk	Mil. lb.	495.9	821.8	664.1	31.0	11.3	7.5	41.7
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	145	327	1,163	64	32	17	-25
All products (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	5,810	9,722	8,297	364	132	86	650
Imports:								
All products (m.e.-fat)	Mil. lb.	5,716	5,103	5,040	382	465	471	480
All products (m.e.-skim)	Mil. lb.	4,686	5,103	4,980	399	474	500	500
International market prices:								
Butter	\$/metric ton	1,391	1,158	1,416	1,575	1,633	1,630	1,595
Nonfat dry milk	\$/metric ton	2,019	1,348	1,744	1,759	1,803	1,818	1,842

1/ Some data series different than formerly published due to changes in availability.

2/ Hard ice cream, ice milk, and sherbet.

m.e.-fat (skim) = Milk equivalent, fat (skim solids) basis

NA=Not available

Sources: USDA (AMS, ERS, FAS, FSA, NASS), Department of Labor (BLS), Department of Commerce (Bureau of Census), and ERS calculations.

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U.S. dairy situation at a glance (continued)

Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	Jul-04	Aug-04	Sep-04	Oct-04	Nov-04
12,491	11,787	12,798	12,588	13,007	12,410	12,541	12,376	11,878	12,254	11,846
7,716	7,716	7,717	7,721	7,722	7,742	7,759	7,766	7,769	7,765	7,765
1,619	1,528	1,658	1,630	1,684	1,603	1,616	1,594	1,529	1,578	1,526
14,391	13,575	14,735	14,483	14,960	14,269	14,386	14,192	13,615	14,041	13,567
13.20	13.60	15.40	18.20	19.40	18.20	16.00	15.00	15.40	15.50	15.80
13.20	13.60	15.40	18.20	19.40	18.30	16.00	15.00	15.40	15.50	15.80
12.30	12.80	15.20	19.40	19.20	16.90	14.30	14.10	14.60	14.70	15.20
11.61	11.89	14.49	19.66	20.58	17.68	14.85	14.04	14.72	14.16	14.89
10.97	12.21	14.10	14.57	14.50	13.72	13.31	12.46	13.00	12.81	13.34
49.09	49.83	49.30	53.19	55.75	57.70	59.94	58.60	56.00	53.81	50.85
1.4320	1.7132	2.1350	2.2204	2.0363	1.9300	1.7458	1.5408	1.7656	1.6475	1.9238
1.3062	1.3958	1.8197	2.1687	1.9925	1.7105	1.4486	1.5734	1.5702	1.5170	1.6960
1.2539	1.3586	1.7977	2.1318	1.8848	1.6848	1.4226	1.5427	1.5206	1.4683	1.6534
0.8366	0.8413	0.8518	0.8808	0.9050	0.9188	0.9188	0.8814	0.8700	0.8700	0.8898
185.2	186.2	187.4	188.0	189.1	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191.0
183.8	184.1	184.4	184.5	186.1	186.3	186.8	186.8	186.7	187.9	188.2
172.4	172.1	171.9	174.0	185.9	188.8	187.7	184.9	181.6	182.1	180.9
116.7	115.8	114.6	116.9	133.5	137.4	135.2	129.2	125.3	125.9	124.8
116.1	118.3	117.0	118.3	120.5	122.3	122.5	122.0	121.8	122.6	120.4
131.9	105.8	96.7	96.5	106.6	97.0	91.2	88.6	92.1	103.0	NA
321.4	297.2	324.2	322.4	331.9	311.4	302.8	298.6	295.2	311.2	NA
414.5	407.0	455.4	434.4	416.4	405.9	405.1	415.4	420.8	435.0	NA
88.8	96.6	121.0	121.5	118.9	135.2	125.6	116.8	108.5	102.3	NA
9,261	8,572	9,287	9,235	9,543	9,318	8,976	8,822	8,707	8,920	NA
120.5	115.8	118.0	134.1	151.1	143.8	134.0	113.8	93.9	94.6	NA
93.4	151.2	156.9	157.5	155.3	178.5	187.0	193.4	161.0	133.0	107.1
481.8	508.5	523.6	511.2	518.8	551.2	581.6	608.8	561.7	547.4	520.6
233.0	238.8	233.5	238.7	241.3	245.7	251.5	253.7	242.7	236.8	228.7
103.9	108.8	95.2	79.9	103.6	126.2	145.9	161.1	148.8	127.2	115.4
8,331	9,895	10,122	10,064	10,113	10,966	11,508	11,947	10,732	9,916	8,989
8,394	8,794	8,740	8,499	8,877	9,520	10,135	10,635	9,921	9,443	8,905
582	468	443	408	385	342	313	272	260	236	225
10,405	10,011	9,574	9,101	8,645	8,015	7,499	7,066	6,745	6,212	5,787
82.2	102.3	101.8	106.0	94.5	95.2	88.3	123.8	121.5	130.5	NA
297.9	283.8	344.9	322.2	307.9	289.8	277.3	347.4	311.4	344.5	NA
430.1	436.0	480.9	469.3	448.1	435.4	435.0	457.8	458.4	474.6	NA
40.1	89.7	181.8	121.9	125.0	106.7	111.7	101.1	117.6	96.7	NA
13,253	13,544	15,166	14,947	14,645	14,166	14,221	15,655	14,669	15,247	NA
501	506	561	544	524	505	506	562	533	567	NA
1,169	1,158	1,377	1,275	1,274	1,195	1,200	1,267	1,232	1,285	NA
-5.7	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
75.5	39.7	-48.5	-11.5	3.5	17.8	7.2	25.4	-2.0	9.8	3.0
-100	16	-15	1	6	9	8	11	0	2	1
886	469	-558	-127	48	215	91	304	-24	114	35
415	295	447	600	633	535	371	348	324	370	NA
288	286	400	515	468	468	360	353	348	390	NA
1,606	1,579	1,655	1,725	1,819	1,935	2,039	2,080	2,080	2,080	2,115
1,788	1,782	1,856	1,875	1,994	2,118	2,175	2,161	2,182	2,244	2,365

Commercial disappearance: Milk in all products, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Supply:													
Production	14,391	13,575	14,735	14,483	14,960	14,269	14,386	14,192	13,615	14,041	13,567		
Farm use	89	83	89	86	89	86	89	89	86	89	86		
Marketings	14,302	13,492	14,646	14,397	14,871	14,183	14,297	14,103	13,529	13,952	13,481		
Beginning commercial stocks	8,331	9,895	10,122	10,064	10,113	10,966	11,508	11,947	10,732	9,916	8,989		
Imports	415	295	447	600	633	535	371	348	324	370			
Total supply	23,048	23,682	25,215	25,061	25,617	25,684	26,176	26,398	24,585	24,238			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	9,895	10,122	10,064	10,113	10,966	11,508	11,947	10,732	9,916	8,989			
USDA net removals	(100)	16	(15)	1	6	10	8	11	0	2	1		
Commercial disappearance	13,253	13,544	15,166	14,947	14,645	14,166	14,221	15,655	14,669	15,247			
Percent change from a year ago	[-2.6]	[2.5]	6.2	0.6	4.4	2.2	-1.0	-4.4	4.4	-2.5	-1.3		
Cumulative disappearance	13,253	26,797	41,963	56,910	71,555	85,721	99,942	115,597	130,266	145,513			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	41,963			43,758			44,545						
Percent change from a year ago	[0.1]	1.3			1.9			-0.8					

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Sources: NASS, ERS, FAS, FSA, Bureau of Census, and ERS calculations.

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Commercial disappearance: Milkfat, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Million pounds													
Supply:													
Production	543	509	545	529	537	508	514	508	496	524			
Farm use	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
Marketings	539	506	542	525	534	505	510	505	492	520			
Beginning commercial stocks	306	363	372	369	371	403	422	439	394	364			
Imports	15	10	15	21	22	19	13	12	11	13			
Total supply	860	879	929	915	927	927	945	956	897	897			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	363	372	369	371	403	422	439	394	364	330			
USDA net removals	(4)	1	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Commercial disappearance	501	506	561	544	524	505	506	562	533	567			
Percent change from a year ago	[-2.2]	[2.5]											
Cumulative disappearance	501	1,007	1,568	2,113	2,636	3,141	3,648	4,210	4,743	5,310			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	1,568			1,573			1,602						
Percent change from a year ago	[0.1]			1.3			0.2						
	1.2												

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: Skim solids, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Million pounds													
Supply:													
Production	1,262	1,176	1,282	1,260	1,301	1,232	1,227	1,209	1,167	1,222			
Farm use	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	8	7	8			
Marketings	1,254	1,169	1,274	1,253	1,293	1,225	1,220	1,202	1,159	1,214			
Beginning commercial stocks	721	755	751	730	763	818	870	913	852	811			
Imports	25	25	34	44	40	40	31	30	30	34			
Total supply	2,000	1,949	2,059	2,027	2,096	2,083	2,121	2,145	2,041	2,059			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	755	751	730	763	818	870	913	852	811	764			
USDA net removals	76	40	(48)	(11)	4	18	8	26	(2)	10			
Commercial disappearance	1,169	1,158	1,377	1,275	1,274	1,195	1,200	1,267	1,232	1,285			
Percent change from a year ago	[-1.2	3.3] 7.0	10.2	8.5	3.3	0.6	-1.7	4.2	3.8	1.7			
Cumulative disappearance	1,169	2,327	3,704	4,979	6,253	7,447	8,647	9,913	11,146	12,431			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	3,704			3,743			3,699						
Percent change from a year ago	[4.3	5.4		4.1			2.1						

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: Butter, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Supply:													
Production	131.9	105.8	96.7	96.5	106.6	97.0	91.2	88.6	92.1	103.0			
Beginning commercial stocks	93.4	151.2	156.9	157.5	155.3	178.5	187.0	193.4	161.0	133.0	107.1		
Imports	2.5	2.2	5.2	7.1	11.0	6.6	3.5	2.7	1.4	1.6			
Total supply	227.8	259.2	258.8	261.1	272.9	282.1	281.7	284.7	254.5	237.6			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	151.2	156.9	157.5	155.3	178.5	187.0	193.4	161.0	133.0	107.1	59.2		
USDA net removals	-5.6	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Commercial disappearance	82.2	102.3	101.8	106.0	94.5	95.2	88.3	123.8	121.5	130.5			
Percent change from a year ago	[-15.0]	[5.3]	-14.7	0.0	13.9	17.1	-9.6	24.3	1.3	-3.8			
Cumulative disappearance	82.2	184.5	286.3	392.3	486.8	582.0	670.3	794.1	915.6	1,046.1			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	286.3			295.7			333.6						
Percent change from a year ago	[-8.8]				9.4			5.2					
	-7.6												

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Sources: NASS, ERS, FAS, FSA, Bureau of Census, and ERS calculations.

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Commercial disappearance: Nonfat dry milk, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Million pounds													
Supply:													
Production	120.5	115.8	118.0	134.1	151.1	143.8	134.0	113.8	93.9	94.6			
Beginning commercial stocks	103.9	108.8	95.2	79.9	103.6	126.2	145.9	161.1	148.8	127.2	115.4		
Imports	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1			
Total supply	224.4	224.6	213.2	214.0	254.7	270.4	280.0	275.3	242.8	221.9			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	108.8	95.2	79.9	103.6	126.2	145.9	161.1	148.8	127.2	115.4			
USDA net removals	75.5	39.7	-48.5	-11.5	3.5	17.8	7.2	25.4	-2.0	9.8	3.0		
Commercial disappearance	40.1	89.7	181.8	121.9	125.0	106.7	111.7	101.1	117.6	96.7			
Percent change from a year ago	[-23.6]	[115.4]											
		123.1	134.9	133.5	41.7	26.7	5.1	14.9	58.3	8.7			
Cumulative disappearance	40.1	129.8	311.6	433.5	558.5	665.2	776.9	878.0	995.6	1,092.3			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	311.6			353.6			330.4						
Percent change from a year ago	[81.4]				57.4			23.0					
	83.2												

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Commercial disappearance: American cheese, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Million pounds													
Supply:													
Production	321.4	297.2	324.2	322.4	331.9	311.4	302.8	298.6	295.2	311.2			
Beginning commercial stocks	481.8	508.5	523.6	511.2	518.8	551.2	581.6	608.8	561.7	547.4	520.6		
Imports	3.9	2.4	9.0	8.1	9.1	9.5	2.4	2.4	1.9	6.5			
Total supply	807.1	808.1	856.8	841.7	859.8	872.1	886.8	909.8	858.8	865.1			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	508.5	523.6	511.2	518.8	551.2	581.6	608.8	561.7	547.4	520.6	478.6		
USDA net removals	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Commercial disappearance	297.9	283.8	344.9	322.2	307.9	289.8	277.3	347.4	311.4	344.5			
Percent change from a year ago	[-1.4	1.9] 5.5	6.4	6.9	-1.2	-1.3	-10.3	10.6	-4.8	2.1			
Cumulative disappearance	297.9	581.7	926.6	1,248.8	1,556.7	1,846.5	2,123.8	2,471.2	2,782.6	3,127.1			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	926.6			919.9			936.1						
Percent change from a year ago	[2.4]				1.5			-1.5					
	3.5												

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Sources: NASS, ERS, FAS, FSA, Bureau of Census, and ERS calculations.

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Commercial disappearance: Other-than-American cheese, 2004

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Million pounds													
Supply:													
Production	414.5	407.0	455.4	434.4	416.4	405.9	405.1	415.4	420.8	435.0			
Beginning commercial stocks	233.0	238.8	233.5	238.7	241.3	245.7	251.4	253.7	242.7	236.8	228.7		
Imports	21.4	23.7	30.7	37.5	36.1	35.2	32.2	31.4	31.7	31.5			
Total supply	668.9	669.5	719.6	710.6	693.8	686.8	688.7	700.5	695.2	703.3			
Utilization:													
Ending commercial stocks	238.8	233.5	238.7	241.3	245.7	251.4	253.7	242.7	236.8	228.7	223.4		
Commercial disappearance	430.1	436.0	480.9	469.3	448.1	435.4	435.0	457.8	458.4	474.6			
Percent change from a year ago	[5.1]	[4.2]	10.5	7.3	1.1	-0.7	-3.0	4.0	1.5	-2.9			
Cumulative disappearance	430.1	866.1	1347.0	1816.3	2264.4	2699.8	3134.8	3592.6	4051.0	4525.6			
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter			
	1347.0			1352.8			1351.2						
Percent change from a year ago	[6.7]	7.9		2.6			0.8						

Percentages in brackets adjusted for leap year.

Broiler, turkey, and egg feed costs and market prices

	DECATUR SOYBEAN MEAL	CHICAGO No. 2 CORN	Feed costs Liveweight Basis	Market Price	Market Price - Feed costs
BROILERS	\$ / ton	\$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	106.2	126.3	133.4
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	107.4	120.7	125.4
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	115.8	121.8	123.8
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	113.0	123.6	127.4
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	117.2	129.8	134.3
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	117.6	139.5	147.3
Mar-2004	301.14	3.02	123.7	146.0	153.9
Apr-2004	311.83	3.17	129.0	148.6	155.5
May-2004	307.13	3.05	138.4	153.9	159.4
June-2004	311.50	2.92	142.7	155.3	159.8
July-2004	293.63	2.43	140.0	151.9	156.1
Aug-2004	206.70	2.37	138.6	139.6	140.0
Sept-2004	174.25	2.22	127.5	121.3	119.2
Oct-2004	154.25	1.88	111.4	113.2	113.8
Nov-2004	154.50	1.93	103.2	105.6	106.4
TURKEYS	\$ / ton	\$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	112.6	91.6	82.1
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	107.1	97.6	93.3
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	108.6	100.8	97.2
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	119.7	95.8	84.9
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	116.1	90.8	79.4
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	121.5	90.9	77.0
Mar-2004	301.14	3.02	121.8	93.8	81.0
Apr-2004	311.83	3.17	129.5	97.5	83.0
May-2004	307.13	3.05	136.1	100.8	84.7
June-2004	311.50	2.92	148.1	104.2	84.2
July-2004	293.63	2.43	153.5	107.0	85.8
Aug-2004	206.70	2.37	150.1	110.2	92.0
Sept-2004	174.25	2.22	148.6	112.3	95.7
Oct-2004	154.25	1.88	135.0	115.7	106.9
Nov-2004	154.50	1.93	113.7	116.0	117.0
EGGS	\$ / ton	\$ / bushel	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100	1998-2000=100
Sept-2003	235.20	2.34	109.2	116.1	119.7
Oct-2003	225.20	2.27	117.2	124.2	127.9
Nov-2003	242.00	2.35	113.9	151.7	171.4
Dec-2003	231.54	2.49	118.6	145.3	159.3
Jan-2004	252.15	2.64	120.3	142.5	154.1
Feb-2004	265.88	2.82	127.3	139.7	146.1
Mar-2004	301.14	3.02	133.9	155.3	166.5
Apr-2004	311.83	3.17	144.5	113.2	96.8
May-2004	307.13	3.05	149.9	89.5	57.9
June-2004	311.50	2.92	146.2	94.1	66.8
July-2004	293.63	2.43	143.7	85.6	55.3
Aug-2004	206.70	2.37	128.8	79.8	54.2
Sept-2004	174.25	2.22	113.4	73.8	53.1
Oct-2004	154.25	1.88	104.5	70.3	52.4
Nov-2004	154.50	1.93	92.9	84.6	80.3

NOTE - These statistical series were developed to show changes in poultry feed costs and and market prices for broilers products, whole turkeys, large cartoned eggs.

Sources: Corn and soybean prices - AMS Grain and Feed Weekly Summary.
 Broilers, wholesale composite price - ERS.
 Turkeys, 3-region wholesale whole bird price - ERS.
 Eggs, 1 dozen Grade A large combined regional price - ERS.